

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. – 65. (Canceled)

66. (New) A device that effects the condition of a mitral valve annulus of a heart comprising an elongated member dimensioned to be placed in the coronary sinus of the heart adjacent the mitral valve annulus, the elongated member having a relatively low resistance to flexure in a first direction and a relatively high resistance to flexure in a second direction, wherein the first and second directions lie in the same plane.

67. (New) The device of claim 66 wherein the elongated member includes a first longitudinal side facing the first direction and a first plurality of notches formed in the first longitudinal side to provide the elongated member with the relatively low resistance to flexure in the first direction.

68. (New) The device of claim 67 wherein the elongated member includes a second longitudinal side facing the second direction and a second plurality of notches formed in the second longitudinal side to render the elongated member stable when flexed in the second direction.

69. (New) The device of claim 66 wherein the elongated member is bent to conform to the shape of the coronary sinus when in a first orientation.

70. (New) The device of claim 69 wherein the elongated member has a first radius of curvature when in the first orientation, a second radius of curvature when in a second orientation, and wherein the first radius of curvature is less than the second radius of curvature.

71. (New) A device that effects the condition of a mitral valve annulus of a heart comprising an elongated member dimensioned to be placed in the coronary sinus of the heart adjacent the mitral valve annulus, the elongated member having a relatively low resistance to flexure in a first direction and a relatively high resistance to flexure in a second direction, wherein the elongated member includes a first longitudinal side facing the first direction and a first plurality of notches formed in the first longitudinal side to provide the elongated member with the relatively low resistance to

flexure in the first direction, and wherein the elongated member includes a second longitudinal side facing the second direction and a second plurality of notches formed in the second longitudinal side to render the elongated member stable when flexed in the second direction.

72. (New) The device of claim 71 wherein the first plurality of notches are larger than the second plurality of notches.

73. (New) The device of claim 72 wherein the first and second directions lie in the same plane.

74. (New) The device of claim 71 wherein the first and second longitudinal sides are opposite each other.

75. (New) The device of claim 74 wherein the first and second directions lie in the same plane.

76. (New) The device of claim 71 wherein the elongated member is bent to conform to the shape of the coronary sinus when in a first orientation.